

The Department of Music  
of  
The University of Alberta

presents

DECADE 2

A series of chamber music concerts

by

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STRING QUARTET

Norman Nelson, violin  
Lawrence Fisher, violin

Michael Bowie, viola  
Claude Kenneson, cello

Monday, March 10, 1980 at 8:00 p.m.  
Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building

THE STRING QUARTETS

of

B E N J A M I N     B R I T T E N

Quartet No. 1, Op. 25. . . . . (1941)  
Andante sostenuto--Allegro vivo  
Allegro con slancio  
Andante calmo  
Molto vivace

Quartet No. 2, Op. 36. . . . . (1945)  
Allegro calmo senza rigore  
Vivace  
Chacony

INTERMISSION

Quartet No. 3, Op. 94. . . . . (1976)  
Duets  
Ostinato  
Solo  
Burlesque  
Recitative and Passacaglia (La Serenissima)

In 1976 when Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) composed his final work, the Third Quartet, Op. 94, more than thirty years had elapsed since the creation of his earlier string quartets. During this long and productive interim his major compositions had established him as one of the great masters of the twentieth century. He composed significant music in every form and was heralded as England's finest opera composer since Purcell. Quartet No. 3, Op. 94 was composed for the Amadeus Quartet who first performed the work at the Maltings, Snape, on December 19, 1976, two weeks after the death of the composer. The University of Alberta String Quartet is the first Canadian quartet to perform this work and the first ensemble to play all three quartets in cycle.

